

## LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

August 23, 2005

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Re: ***Ex Parte Communication, Developing Unified Inter-carrier  
Compensation Regime, CC Docket 01-92***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, August 22, 2005, Gary Epstein of Latham & Watkins LLP, counsel for the Inter-carrier Compensation Forum ("ICF"), together with Eric Einhorn and James Lamoureux of SBC Communications, Inc., Joel Lubin and Amy Alvarez of AT&T Corp., John Nakahata of Harris, Wiltshire and Grannis, LLP (representing General Communication, Inc. and Level 3 Communications, LLC), Alan Buzacott of MCI, Inc., Richard Metzger of Lawler, Metzger, Milkman & Keeney, LLC (representing MCI, Inc.), Paul Kouroupas of Global Crossing North America Inc. and Ed Krachmer of Iowa Telecom (Mr. Krachmer by telephone) met with Thomas Navin, Tamara Preiss, Narda Jones, Jane Jackson, Victoria Goldberg, Jay Atkinson, Cathy Carpino, Greg Guice and Ian Dillner of the Wireline Competition Bureau.

At the meeting, we noted that the ICF's Reply Comments had been filed and included (1) an economic study showing an increase in consumer welfare of more than \$44 billion, translating into an overall \$105 billion improvement to the U.S. economy, over the life of the Plan and (2) customer impact materials demonstrating that virtually all customers would be better off under the ICF Plan. We noted that the overall defects of and problems caused by the present regime was continuing to worsen and that Chairman Martin had stated in his recent NARUC speech that the inter-carrier compensation issue continued to be of the highest priority for the Commission.

We then discussed the "core principles" with which all ICF members agreed and which have served as the basis for our Plan. We noted that we will continue to participate in the NARUC Workshop process and will continue to meet and discuss possible options and compromises with all interested parties in the inter-carrier compensation debate. We offered to brief the Commission's staff on details of the ICF Plan including network architecture, universal service and internet-related issues.

We discussed generally the Commission's priorities and timing on resolving the inter-carrier compensation docket and the potential issues and problems with resolving specific inter-carrier compensation issues independent of comprehensive action in CC Docket 01-92.

LATHAM & WATKINS<sup>LLP</sup>

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to me at (202) 637-2249.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary M. Epstein", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary M. Epstein